

UCLARA Supports Bruin Resource Center, Food Closet

At the end of the 2021-22 fiscal year, the UCLARA Board voted to fund three campus causes: the Bruin Resource Center, the Food Closet, and Staff Scholarships. (See page 6 for more on staff scholarships).

Paolo Velasco, director of the Bruin Resource Center (BRC), visited our Board meeting in January. He wasn't asking for a donation, but Board members wanted to know how we could help.

He asked us to boost the visibility of BRC and the students it serves: students who were in foster care, students who are also parents, unhoused or undocumented students, students in recovery from substance use, and formerly incarcerated students. Many of these groups continue to be stigmatized, he noted. But the students bring amazing strength and resilience to the UCLA community.

Because Paolo brought these students alive for us, the Board voted to make a \$1,000 one-time donation to the BRC. At the same time, the Board voted to donate



Paolo Velasco, Elaine Fox and Al Aubin

to another student resource: \$3,000 to the Food Closet operated by the Community Programs Office as a safeguard for food-insecure students.

UCLARA supports these causes as a way of helping and staying involved with the University community.

A Message from Our President



*Elaine Fox,
UCLARA President*

How quickly time seems to pass these days. When we were children, the days seemed to pass so slowly. I remember my grandmother telling me not to wish time away when I would tell her how I wanted the days to pass swiftly and not drag on...how I wanted to grow up NOW. Did you feel the same?

Then the years passed...we had very full days in school, watching our children grow and pursuing our careers. Finally... retirement and time! Days without many of the same obligations of earlier years...time to relax, read and/or have extra, uninterrupted hours to spend

with our family and friends...time to travel and to pursue our interests and hobbies.

And now...August 2022...how did that happen? You are now retired with many responsibilities in the rear-view mirror and you seemingly now have time that you may have wished would swiftly pass as I once did... and now are wishing that it would slow down.

As summer approached, it seemed that the world was finally opening up after the uncertain times of the past few years. We believed that we would be able to really take "advantage" of fleeting time...yet the challenge to play and stay healthy and safe is still with us.

UCLARA provides interesting and engaging activities, events and resources for each of you as we are carefully and safely venturing out

Continued on Page 2



From Elaine ...

post-pandemic. Our active program committee, chaired by Michael Heafey, is planning a variety of virtual and in-person programs to pique your interest. Participate... you won't be sorry! Check out our website www.retirees.ucla.edu.

Be sure to follow the activities offered by the ERRC. Ayesha Dixon and her team offer us many resources and opportunities where we can participate, learn, and remain engaged. (See page 8 for info.)

We welcome your membership and participation in the many possibilities offered by UCLARA. Join old friends and colleagues; meet new friends. We are a thriving organization of more than 1,000 members...here for you!

Elaine Fox, UCLARA President

In Memoriam

The UC Office of the President has reported the deaths of the following UCLA annuitants.

Irene Beyermann
Robert Brown
Walter Bruce
Ninfa Castel
Hector Chaparro
Ronald Crawford
Virginia Estrella
Paula George
David Gonzalez
Curtis Hamilton
Michael Hertel
Morris Hickman
Ralph Hudson
Wiktor Janczewski
Teresa Laughlin
Dorothy Jean Lollis
Frank Longoria
Arturo Mariano
Crisanta Mauleon
Donald Mausknacht
William McDougall
Johnny McKay
Homer McPherson
Betty Riekes
Esther Seeley
Ronald Siegel
Galines Smith
Rosemary Smith
Richard Wheeler
Michael Williams

Renee Fortier Joins Board



On July 1, Renee Fortier became the newest member of the UCLA Retirees Association Board, joining us as Recording Secretary.

After a 40-year career at UCLA, Renee retired in 2021 as Executive Director, Events & Transportation. In that role she oversaw the Events Office, Parking, Commuter Services, Fleet & Transit, and Traffic systems. She was co-chair of the BeWell pod of the UCLA Healthy Campus Initiative.

Renee began her UCLA career as a graduate student intern in what was then the Chancellor's Planning Office. She was hired as a Planner in 1982, and became a Principal Planner in the Capital Programs Office. Other career highlights include associate director for Business & Transportation Services and associate director for Parking & Commuter Services.

Renee reports that her favorite UCLARA activities are events, gatherings, and luncheons with fellow retirees. The best thing about retirement, she says, is having time to get outside and enjoy nature in the garden, at the beach, hiking in the local mountains and foothills, and jaunts up the beautiful California coast. (It is also pretty sweet to be free of nonstop emails and messages that need a response!)

Travel Talk from Dolores

A big thank you to all those UCLA retirees, friends and families who have made our travel program such a huge success. We have had many travel fans book more than one trip! Here's what's coming up:

Treasures of Egypt, January 2023

Cairo, Luxor, Temple of Karnak, Valley of the Kings, Nile River Cruise, Aswan, Philae Temple, Giza, Pyramids, Sphinx.

gateway.gocollette.com/link/1107489

Spectacular South Africa, February 2023

Includes Kruger National Park, Capetown and vineyards.

gateway.gocollette.com/link/1076610

Shades of Ireland, April 2023

Dublin, Waterford, Blarney Castle, Derry and Belfast.

gateway.gocollette.com/link/1088433

We're working on a trip to Greece for October 2023. And for 2024, plans are in the works for Costa Rica, Thailand and Vietnam, Morocco, Switzerland, France, Australia and New Zealand.

Talk to Dolores!

If you have any questions please give me a call:

Dolores Dyer 805-758-0053, or email ddyer44@verizon.net

UCLARA Board 2022-23

Executive Committee

- Elaine Fox, President
- Judith Tuch, Vice President/
President-Elect
- Sue Abeles, Past President,
Nominating Committee Chair
- Guy Stocks, Treasurer
- Renee Fortier, Recording
Secretary

Other Members

- Barbara Rabinowitz,
Corresponding Secretary
- Liz Taylor, Member at Large
- Elizabeth Juncosa, Member at
Large
- Carolyn Lew-Karon, Member
at Large
- Jack Powazek, Member at
Large
- Al Aubin, Campus and
Community Relations
- Michael Heafey, Program
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- Mary Petersen, Membership
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- Dolores Dyer, Travel Chair
- John Dahl, Membership
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Technology Chair
- Pat Webber, Alumni Affairs
Liaison
- Anne Pautler, Newsletter
Editor
- Ayesha Dixon, Director,
Emeriti/Retirees Relations
Center (ex officio)

You can email us at
UCLARA@ucla.edu

Calling All Scrabblers



If words are your passion, then Scrabble is your game! Come and play with us!

The Retirees Association is resurrecting its Scrabble Interest Group, which before the pandemic used to play at the Faculty Center (now the UCLA Faculty

Club) on campus. We're pleased that the Faculty Club has agreed to accommodate us again this fall.

If you'd like to play, we'd love to have you join us. But please note that this is an intermediate group; you must know the game and be experienced in order to join. Plans are to play on the first Thursday afternoon of each month, beginning October 6.

We are looking to expand our group, so if you're interested, please contact Kathy Olson at kathleen.t.w.olson@gmail.com. We will let you know all the particulars.



UCLA culinarians (yes, it's a word) responded to our call for UCLARA Cookbook recipes. Ninety-plus recipes came in from forty-plus UCLARA retiree and associate members:

- beverage recipes, spirited and otherwise;
- salads and entrees for vegetarians and meat-lovers alike;
- baked goods and everything in between;
- also recipes from world/ethnic cultures!

We don't have a release date yet, but we'll keep you updated about how and when.

And **it's not too late to send in more recipes by August 31!** Please keep total recipe submissions from before and after May 31 at these levels:

- Total UCLA retiree recipes at 5 or fewer
- Total UCLA associate member recipes at 2 or fewer.

We're especially looking for more world culture/ethnic and American regional recipes, plus an accompanying anecdote and picture/photo, too.

Did we whet your appetite?

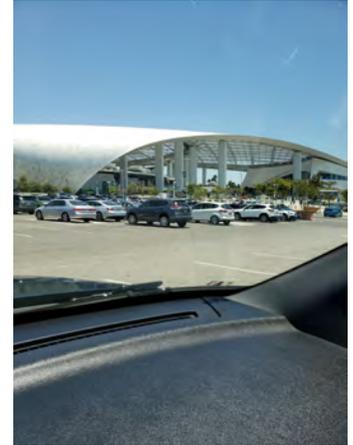
Margaret Johnson, UCLARA Cookbook Coordinator
(recipes or information: mcjohnson244@gmail.com)

Mary Petersen, Nancy Varat, Pat Webber
UCLARA Cookbook Committee Members

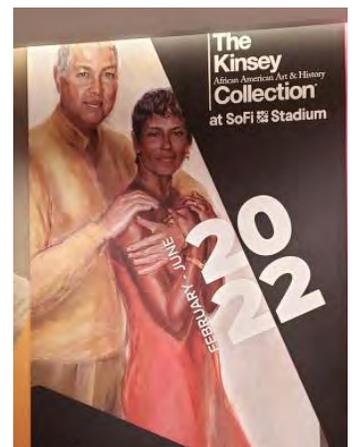
UCLARA Visits SoFi Stadium

What an edifice! The newest L.A. sports venue to house not one, but two NFL teams and more. On June 21, 35 Retirees Association members and spouses were led on a tour of the stadium including the field level, the Rams locker room and media center, and several up-to-date lounges with excellent views and boxes. The seating was generous and comfy, the signs and labels clear and all were very impressed with the open public art display. Thumbs-up for this program!

— Michael Heafey, Program Chair



Above: a view of the stadium interior. Below: our intrepid group of retirees. At right (from top): a view from the parking lot. Two panels of a poster display about the Kinsey African American Art and History Collection.



UCLARA Takes to the Gardens

On June 30, the Retirees held an in-person tour of The Huntington. With our enthusiastic docents in the lead, our three groups took off for a walking tour that included the Shakespeare Garden, the Chinese Garden, the Japanese Garden and the blossoming Rose Garden. After a lengthy walk through the highlights of The Huntington Botanical Gardens, we were also able to visit the Art Museum's open galleries. Fun in the sun!
— Michael Heafey, Program Chair



Above: photographing the Chinese Garden. Below left: the moon bridge in the Japanese Garden. Below right: gallery with Blue Boy and Pinkie (far wall).



2022 Staff Scholarships

Staff Assembly's scholarship program provides \$500 awards to current UCLA staff to support career enhancement and professional growth. Since 2013 the Retirees Association has proudly funded multiple staff scholarships annually. Meet the ten recipients of this year's scholarships:

Judi Abegania, an assistant biosafety officer in Environment, Health & Safety, is pursuing Project Management Professional (PMP) certification. She plans to take the PMP exam preparation course at UCLA Extension.

Agustin Arredondo, a counselor in political science, has already been accepted into UCLA's Educational Leadership doctoral program. He plans to use his award toward tuition and books.

Delia Cortez is a palliative care social worker. She is pursuing a capstone project in her leadership program in the NYU Silver School of Social Work, studying the experiences of Latino patients with palliative care. Her award will help fund her capstone.

Leigh Ann Haley, a project manager in Public Health, is also pursuing Project Management Professional (PMP) certification. She plans to use her award to take the PMP exam preparation course at UCLA Extension.

Patricia Jardack, a nutrition services manager for the Clinical and Translational Science Institute, wants to be board-certified in oncology nutrition. She plans to use her funds for study materials and the exam fee.

Miriam Llamas-Cardenas is an employee & labor relations consultant for Campus Human Resources. She begins the Master of Legal Studies program at UCLA Law in the fall. The scholarship will help pay for her books.

Krista Loretto, a graduate student affairs officer for Health Policy and Management, has decided to pursue an M.Ed. degree while working. Her goal is to be a better student adviser with a strong social justice perspective. Her award will be put toward tuition.

Geno Mehalik is an outreach and programs manager for the Arthur Ashe Student Health & Wellness Center. He wants to attend the American College Health Association 2022 Annual Conference in San Diego, in part to learn about administering new professional development programs.

Christina Montano, a rental events associate in Theater Management Services, is pursuing an emergency management and homeland security certificate through UCLA Extension. She is working on emergency action plans for Royce Hall and other performance venues. Her award will help with fees for her final course.

Claudia Sosa-Hernandez, a medical assistant at UCLA's Department of Medicine, is taking GE classes to qualify for the registered nurse program at Pasadena City College.

Your tax-deductible gift helps ensure these scholarships will be awarded in perpetuity. Send a check payable to "The UCLA Foundation" and referencing "Fund #82013E, UCLARA Staff Endowment Fund." Mail your gift to: The UCLA Foundation, P.O. Box 7145, Pasadena CA 91109-9903. Thank you!

Welcome to UCLARA!

UCLARA is happy to welcome the following new members.

- Akinlove Ademunviwa
- Dee Bridgewater
- Catherine Chan
- Linda Chen
- Helen Contreras
- Bambi Conway
- Irma Correa
- Dean Dacumos
- Thomas Dewey
- Andrea Erman
- Kathleen Gardner
- Karen Gracey
- Maryanne Hall
- Jianbo He
- Suzanne Howell
- Sung Lee
- Eugene Liska
- Angela Lott
- Jose Martinez
- Zondra Miller
- Rick Morishita
- Mellani Nolan
- Elizabeth Overbeck
- Thomas Phelan
- Rhonda Sena
- Brian Springer
- Kathleen Stone
- Rhonda Super
- Laurie Ultan-Thomas
- Eric Wang
- Ernest Wright
- Magdalena Yamamoto

UCLARA CONNECTIONS

Published quarterly by the University of California, Los Angeles Retirees Association and the Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center at UCLA:

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Lam Luu

For the Solid Gold Sound



1962 Rose Parade

“When I first heard the UCLA Bruin Marching Band, I was immediately amazed by its incredible sound,” Sheldon Mehr remembers. “No other band has that sound!”

Sheldon was born in Chicago, Illinois and attended public schools there. After high school graduation, he enrolled at the local community college and, later, at Northwestern University as a music major. When his family decided to relocate to Los Angeles, he transferred to UCLA as a music major and trumpet player. He recalls promptly joining the UCLA Marching Band, and all these years later, he still thinks this was one of the best decisions he ever made.

After graduation in 1953, Sheldon carried with him everything he had learned at UCLA about what it means to make music and what it means for an audience to experience that music. He went on to teach instrumental music for over 40 years, at Belmont High School, Van Nuys Sr. High School, and Granada Hills High School, where he developed and led a marching band of over 120 members.

A lifelong love of music turns into a legacy

“For me, music is the most profound of all the arts,” Sheldon explains. “A basic understanding of the elements of music is easily transferable to other art forms, and if students do not have access to music education in the schools, they are missing a very important part of their emotional and intellectual development.”

This deep belief is the reason he chose to give back to music through the UCLA Marching Band. His wife, Linda, is an alumna who earned her bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. at UCLA. Together they provide an annual scholarship to support a Marching Band member.

Still, they wanted to do more. After first providing for their family, including two grandchildren, through their estate plans, they decided also to include UCLA. “A part of our estate will support the UCLA Marching Band. We are pleased to create and leave behind a legacy in support of future generations of musicians,” Sheldon explains.

For information about establishing a bequest, sample bequest language, or any other flexible ways you can include a philanthropic gift in your estate plans, please contact Devon Brown, Director of Gift Planning, at devonb@support.ucla.edu or 310-794-2213.



Band uniforms 1958-61

Join the Play Reading Group

Open to new members as play readers or “audience.” [Email Rochelle Caballero](mailto:Rochelle.Caballero@ucla.edu) and tell her you read about the group in *UCLARA Connections*.

Thursday, August 11, *The Merchant of Venice* by William Shakespeare, 7 pm via Zoom

Thursday, September 15, *Witness for the Prosecution* by Agatha Christie, 7 pm via Zoom

Thursday, October 13, *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams, Zoom or Faculty Club in-person, to be determined

News from the Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center

To all recent retirees, welcome! The Emeriti/ Retirees Relations Center (ERRC) is here to help you continue your connection with UCLA. The ERRC serves all retired UCLA faculty/staff as well as their spouses/partners.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you need us to verify your eligibility to receive your BruinCard or parking ePermit.

The ERRC provides administrative support and campus coordination efforts to the UCLA Retirees Association (UCLARA) and the UCLA Emeriti Association, which represent retiree and emeriti interests to the University and sponsor a variety of activities for their members.

The ERRC can be reached by email at emeriti@errc.ucla.edu or voicemail at 310-825-7456. See the website at ERRC.ucla.edu. For the latest announcements, [sign up for](#) the twice-monthly ERRC emails. The ERRC also facilitates the following services and privileges:

- **Parking ePermit**— Retired faculty and staff with at least five years of service credit are eligible for discounted parking passes. The ERRC coordinates with Transportation Services to provide retiree permits.
- **BruinCards**—All retired faculty and staff are eligible for a retiree BruinCard, which acts as a library card and provides discounts at select campus events and venues. Note: the BruinCard Center is operating at a satellite location and you must have a scheduled appointment time.
- **Bruin Online**—Staff retirees' Bruin Online email accounts continue upon retirement. They are not your departmental email address and do not include other services, such as VPN and secured on-campus Wi-Fi access.
- **Bruin Store Discounts** – Retirees qualify for both the Staff Appreciation Day sale program and the Academic Discount program at the UCLA Store.
- **UCLA Extension** – Staff retirees and emeriti professors are entitled to a 25% discount on Extension courses.

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